

III. **THE HISTORICAL** **THEORY** **OF** **THE** **STATE**

# CRISIS.

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# To the KING.

From Philip Thicknesse, Esq.

• E F O R E the Contents of this Paper is communicated to your Majesty, the Writer of it will have taken an everlasting Farewell of your Kingdom, and his own Native, and once beloved Country. He will consider himself a Citizen of the whole World; who has been defrauded of his Fortune, by a Combination of your Majesty's wicked and corrupt Judges, and supported therein, by your Majesty's own, Domestic Servants and Friends.

He will consider himself, (and so Sir will all your Majesty's  
honest Subjects,) as a Man grown Old in your Service, driven  
from your Dominions, with *Eight Children in his Train*, to seek  
his own *Subsistence*, and their Fortune, at an Age that he might  
reasonably have expected to have been in Possession of a com-  
fortable Support, as a Reward for his long and faithful Services;  
instead of which, his own private Property has been wrested from  
him, by a most unheard of Proceeding, in a House, *called the*  
*House of Lords*; but whose shamefull Conduct to him, justifies  
his calling it a *Den of Thieves*; and that too, of the worst Sort;  
because the Robbery they committed, was done under the  
Sanction of the Law; though he really fell a Sacrifice to the  
wretched Politics of your Ministers, and to the Personal Pique,  
of that worst of Men, *Lord Mansfield*. — He will consider him-  
self

self as a Man, owing Allegiance to no Prince upon Earth, till he has found one, who will afford him an Assylum, for himself, and his large Family; and who will protect his Person, and maintain his Property, *by the established Laws of his Country.*

Sir, I have served in the Armies of your Majesty, and your Royal Grandfather, from the Age of Fifteen, to Fifty. I have served in almost every Part of the Globe, and have spilt some of my Blood in severe Services; and now Sir, before I quit my Native Country, I am determined to stand forth, with that Boldness which Truth inspires, and Injuries provoke, to tell your Majesty some alarming and wholesome Truths;—Truths, which the Men *now* about your Person, durst not tell you, and which your real Friends *cannot*. It is needless to inform your Majesty of the scandalous Behaviour of your present Chancellor, Lord *Apsley*, in the House of Lords; on the 16th Day of *February* last; but it seems *Necessary*, to remind your Majesty of the *Virtues of his Predecessors*.—I need not repeat all the shamefull Misdoings of the former, because I know your Majesty has seen the VII and X Number of this P A P E R; and if your Majesty condescended to read the Petition, I had the Honour to deliver into your Hand, by the favourable Assistance of the Earl of *Oxford*, you are equally as well informed with my unhappy and singular Situation.

But neither the Injustice which has been done me in the *House of Lords*; my long and faithful Services; my large Family; nor the humble Petition of a Man who has eight Children, (the eldest of whom is the presumptive Heir to an ancient Baronry) has proved sufficient to induce your Majesty to attend to my humble Prayer.

Permit me, Sir, to remind your Majesty, that it is not for *your Sake* only, but for the *Sake of your People*, that you are appointed their *Chief Magistrate*; for surely, Sir, if you had considered this, you wou'd not have removed from the Highest, and most important *Seat of Justice*, a virtuous and an able Man, whose *equitable Decisions*, gave even the *vanquished Suitor* Satisfaction; and have placed in his stead, a Man, whose Name I am ashamed should blot this Paper.

Does your Majesty know, that the Chancellor of this Country decides, in the Course of a few Years, half the Property in your Kingdom?—You certainly do;—and does your Majesty believe, that your People will be satisfied, now they know that your present Chancellor has neither Abilities to discern, nor Integrity to decide, honestly, even when *the Law is pointed out to him*.

All the World acknowledges the Abilities of Lord *Camden* as fully as they esteem him for his *Integrity*.—He is confessedly the first and ablest Lawyer in your Majesty's Kingdom, and allowed by all *Parties* to be an *honest Man*.

Why then, Sir, at a Time his eminent Abilities were so essentially necessary in your private Councils, was he dismissed from his *high Office*?—I, Sir, above all Men, have a Right to ask your Majesty this Question; because *his Dismission has been my Ruin*; and take Care, least his Successor, and his Abettors, do not ruin a greater Man.

Is the Property of your Majesty's Subjects to be sacrificed to his Vanity or Support?—Must his Decrees be affirmed right or wrong? Does not your Majesty hear of the constant Appeals from his Decisions? and does your Majesty think the Confirmation of them by Lord *Denbigh*, and your Bedchamber Lords, will satisfy the injured and plundered Appellants? who, instead of gaining their Property, are ruined by Expence, and rendered wretched by unnecessary Delays. Surely, Sir, if not for their Sakes, you will instantly for *your own*, put the Seals into the Hands of an able Man.—You cannot put them into weaker, or more dishonest Hands.

Is the Man, who took the Advantage of Mr. *Hoare's* Generosity to his necessitous Brother, by an Act which a Petty-fogging Attorney would have blushed at, a fit Person to administer the Law, even if he knew it, to the Subjects of *Britain*?—Forbid it *Justice*;—forbid it *Truth*:—*I tell you plainly, Sir, the Nation will not bear it.* Your Majesty knows, that the Seals were given to Lord *Apsley*, because no other Man but his Lordship would accept them on Lord *Mansfield's Terms*; who knew him to be a vain, empty Creature, who would implicitly obey *his Mandates*.

What must your Majesty's Subjects think of a Man, who said in the House of Lords;—“*My Lords, I pride myself in asking, and obtaining, the Private Opinions of my Brother Judges:*” Yet his *priding* Lordship stood silent, and looked sullen, when Lord *Pawlet* moved the House to have the *Public Opinion of all his Brother Judges*.

And when his infamous Abettors (your Majesty's Bedchamber Lords) had over-ruled that honest Motion, what did he do? stood forth and read a *Private Letter* obtained from Sir *William De Grey*, for the wicked Purpose, and imposed that Man's pretended Opinion, in order to sustain Lord *Mansfield's* and his own, though he was previously told by Lord *Camden*, “*That it was contrary to Law to read it, and that, if it had been otherwise, the Opinion of a Man, not a Judge in that Court, ought not to weigh, even as a Wafer in the Scale.*”—Nor, said his Lordship, should *such an Opinion* be even whispered in this House.”

I appeal, Sir, to your Majesty's Justice, and to the good Sense and Candour of all your Subjects, whether *such Proceedings as those*, had any Resemblance of the benign Face of *Equity or Justice*. No, Sir, every Bystander saw, with Concern and Pity; and many of the more feeling Part, with Astonishment and Horror.

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The Day my Ruin was effected, the Contest was not for *Justice* to either Party; but whether your Majesty's *present* Chancellor, and his wicked Abettors, could bully down and defeat the irresistible Arguments, and good Sense of that good Man, Lord *Camden*.

This, Sir, is the Sense of the whole Nation, and it is NOW, *their Misfortune, more than mine*. This, Sir, is a Truth, told you by an unfortunate Man, who is no longer your Servant, nor your Subject, nor any longer interested in the Welfare of a Kingdom, which has treated him with such repeated Acts of Injustice, for he has long before this, been a *Mark* to be *shot* at. † He has asked *Alms* of your Majesty since this fatal Blow; but his Prayer has been made to your Majesty without Effect! perhaps without Pity.

Do not therefore Sir, suffer it to be laid, that void of a due Sense of the Duty I owed to your Majesty, or a natural Love to my native Country, that I forsook *both*, from interested Views, or Want of honest Principles: No, Sir, I forsook my Country, like an honest, but injured Man, owing no one any Thing; and having a large, and just *Demand* upon it.—I have forsook it, Sir, in the 56th Year of my Age, and the 35th of my faithful Services, to seek an honest Subsistence, for myself, and my large Family, because the little Pittance *I have left*, is insufficient to maintain them; and because my legal Property, has been violently wrested from my Hands, by your Majesty's three first *Law Officers*.

Oh, Britain! how is thy Glory faded! Art thou the Nation, so lately renowned through the *World*; for its Valour in *War*; its Wisdom in *Council*; and its equitable Distribution of *Justice*!—Thy Inhabitants now behold, with Astonishment and Horror, Lord *Denbigh* become the chief Prop to the first *Law Officer*; Lord *Sandwich*, to the Archbishop of *Canterbury*; and Lord *Le Despencer* to the *Propagators of the Christian Religion*! And yet, strange to think, all these Things are come to pass, during the Reign of a *Religious King*, and the *best of Princes*.

The Day, Sir, my ruinous Cause came on before the House of Lords, a Report was as artfully, as wickedly, propagated at *St. James's*, "That Lord *CAMDEN* was going down to the House of Lords, to commit *Hostilities* against your Majesty's Chancellor."—*Hostilities* was the *Parole*; it was whispered about till it was thought necessary to send some *Household Troops* down, to sustain *Lord CAMDEN's* wicked *Attack upon Justice*. Lord *Denbigh* was the *Russian*, to whom the *Command* was given; and he executed his *Business* with such *Alacrity*, that he soon drove *Lord Pawlet* from his Post; *Lord CAMDEN* sustained the *Attack* singly, for an Hour and twenty Minutes, but was at length, obliged to give Way to *Numbers*.—Thus, Sir, a *complete Victory* was obtained over *Lord CAMDEN's* wicked *Intentions*; and *My Ruin* was accomplished. I confess, Sir, I fled from the *Field of*

† See his Trial at a Court-Martial, published about ten Years since, and his Letter to Lord *Bute*.

Battle, during the warmest Part of the Conflict; but it was the *first Time*, and I was *deeply wounded*. I thank GOD, however, I left **Lord CAMDEN**, fighting singly on my Side.—He fought Sir, *valliantly*, and fell *nobly*; for he fell with *vanquished Justice* by his Side; fighting for the Honour of his Country, and a friendless Stranger: His Honour, Sir, and his Pity, has been my Support. I say his Pity; for though I am unfortunately an *utter Stranger* to that great and good Man; I know he has almost dropped a Tear in Pity to my Misfortunes; and I have seen, under his own Hand, a Letter, in which are these Words:

“ *I am glad I did not know the distressed Situation of Mr. Thick-ness, before his Cause came on; I am sorry to be acquainted with it now, because my Heart bleeds for him, and I can give him no Relief. His Case would have been hard, had the Law been against him.* ” &c. &c.

These, Sir, are the Sentiments of your Majesty’s *late Lord Chancellor*; and as your Majesty knows, what Sentiments the whole Nation entertain of your *present*; remove him, I beseech you, from that once chaste Seat he has so infamously defiled, and no longer disgrace your own Dignity, nor risque your Subjects Property, to the Controul of so contemptible a Person; for a Knave in that Station, would be more acceptable to your People, than a Fool; and even **Lord Mansfield** is much more fitting for that Employment, than **Lord Apsley**; but if you wish to recover the Affection of your People, restore **Lord CAMDEN** to a Seat he will fill with so much Honour to your Majesty, and so much Satisfaction to the whole Nation.—I am sure the Day is not very remote when you *must* do it; and I hope you will spare yourself that *Mortification*, and do it *now, because it ought to be done*.—I know not how to subscribe myself, for I know not who, or what I am; but this I can with Truth say, that *I was* your Majesty’s faithful Subject, and devoted Servant; but am now driven into Exile, by being plundered of my private Property, because your Majesty’s Ministers thought it better to sacrifice me to their Prejudice and Politicks, than expose the Weakness and Wickedness of your Law Officers; or to Countenance even the *Laws of the Land*, while they are in the *Custody only of Lord CAMDEN*.

I shall conclude this Address to your Majesty with an Extract, from the Writings of the great **Lord Bacon**; who says, “ *When any of the four Pillars of Government are mainly shaken, or weakned, which are Religion,—Justice,—Council,—and Treasure.—Men had Need to Pray for fair Weather.* —And speaking of Sedition, his Lordship says, “ *The Matter of Seditions is of two Kinds:—Much Poverty, and much Discontent. Luke noteth well the State of Rome before the CIVIL WAR.* *Hinc usura vorax rapidumque intempore fænus.* ” *Hinc concussa fides, & multis utile Bellum.*

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"This same *Multis utile Bellum*, is an assured, and infallible Sign of a State disposed to Seditions and Troubles; and if the Poverty, and broken Estates of the better, be joined with Necessity in the mean People, the Danger is imminent and great; but the main Causes of Seditions are, he says, *Innovations in Religion, — Taxes, — Alteration of Laws, and Customs, breaking of Privileges, general Oppression, and Advancement of unworthy Persons, &c.*"

Now, if any of that great Man's Remarks are worthy of your Majesty's Royal Attention, it behoves you to obtain better Information, than Lord Denbigh can, or Lord Mansfield will give you. I shall conclude this Address to your Majesty, in beseeching you to consider, what my Sentiments and Sensations were, while I stood a full Hour at your Closet Door, in Order to throw myself on my Knees, at your Feet, to ask a bare Support for myself, and for my Family, when I saw that painful Hour, chiefly employed by your Majesty, in familiar and gracious Conversation with a Man, who has been on his Knees to call down Destruction on your Family; and indeed, upon them, for even a Prostitution of a more unnatural Crime. However Sir, the Sun shall not go down upon my Anger, and may it long shine upon your Majesty, and all your real Friends.

N. B. A Citizen of London, of the *Drybutter Family* (with whom he had been closely connected) left him a Legacy of Ten Thousand Pounds, and that it was, which first raised this Man from Obscurity, to be a Scourge to this Country.

A CARD to LORD —  
Mr. T—— presents his Compliments to Lord —, and desires his Lordship to consider, that his voluntary Offer to recommend him to the King's Favor, when he had no such Design, was Cruelty in the first Degree.—Has his Lordship forgot, that Sir RICHARD LYTTLETON, and Mr. COLLETON, were Mr. T——'s Acquaintance and Friends, as well as his Lordships? and does his Lordship think, that a certain singular Transaction before he was married to Miss ——— died with those two Gentlemen?—Surely his Lordship does think so, or he would not have been so wantonizing cruel.

\*\* Shortly will be published, a Letter to Lord —  
On Wednesday the 9th of August, will be published in the Forenoon, was published, by T. W. SHAW, in Fleet-Street, Price Two-pence Half-penny.

A CRISIS Extraordinary,  
Proving, unanswerably, that the KING supports a Faction against the Laws and Constitution, that the AMERICANS are not REBELS, and that those who would rise to the State and Liberties of ENGLISHMEN, must rise thro' BLOOD.